

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

U.S. Appln. No. 09/982,946

Attorney Docket No. Q66881

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 40-42 and 44-52 are deleted. Therefore, on entering this amendment, claims 1-39, and 43 are all the claims pending in the application.

The pending claims have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

The pending claims have been found allowable if revised to obviate the grounds for the section 112 rejection.

The Applicants filed an executed assignment along with PTO Form 1595 on April 19, 2002. However, the Applicants have not yet received the Notice of Recordation of Assignment. The Examiner is kindly requested to provide the same as soon as possible.

The Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are believed to be bereft of the grounds for the above rejection under section 112. Since there are no other pending grounds for the rejection of the claims, they should be allowed.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

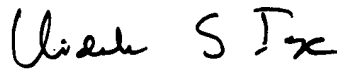
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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: May 19, 2004